Application No.: 10/585,171 Amendment dated July 18, 2008

Response to Office Action dated March 18, 2008

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (currently amended): A system for connecting the ends of <u>cryogenic</u> fluid conduits, comprising a female part (F) intended to receive a portion of a male part (M), the male and female parts each comprising a shutter (15; 9) for closing the fluid conduits, which is normally closed and can be moved into the open position when the system is in the connected configuration, the male and female parts each additionally including an isolation shutter (19; 17) which is normally closed and can be moved into the open position during the introduction of the male part into the female part, wherein the female part (F) comprises a tubular guide (4) with which the male part (M) cooperates by sliding in a leaktight manner with respect to the cryogenic fluid.

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (Original): The system of claim 15, wherein the end (11) of the male part (M) comprises a sliding seal (20) cooperating with the tubular guide (4) of the female part (F).

Claim 17 (Original): The system of claim 15, wherein the male part (M) has a central mandrel (12) comprising the closure shutter (15) of the fluid supply conduit (13) and engaging by sliding in the tubular guide (4) of the female part (F).

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Claim 18 (currently amended): The system of claim 45 16, wherein the male part (M) comprises, to the rear of the sliding seal (20), at least a first pivoting flap (19) capable of cooperating with the end (5) of the tubular guide (4) of the female part (F) during the introduction of the male part into the female part.

Claim 19 (Original): The system of claim 17, wherein the tubular guide (4) of the female part (F) comprises a second pivoting flap (17) capable of cooperating with the end of the central mandrel (12) of the male part (M) during the introduction of this male part into the female part (F).

Claim 20 (currently amended): The system of claim [[6]] 19, wherein the tubular guide (4) of the female part (F) comprises, to the front of the second flap (17), an annular part (5) cooperating by sliding with the periphery of the central mandrel (12) of the male part (M).

Claim 21 (previously presented): The system of claim 15, wherein the female part (F) comprises, in the back of the tubular guide (4), a central tubular element (6) comprising the closure shutter (9) of the fluid-receiving conduit (7) and forming an axial stop for the male part.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The system of claim <u>21 21, in its</u> appendance to one of claims 4 to 7, wherein one of the closure shutters (15; 9) is rigidly secured to a stem (21) cooperating in an axially butting manner with the other closure shutter when the system is in the connection configuration.

Claim 23 (Original): The system of claim 15, wherein the end of the tubular guide (4) of the female part (F) is able, at rest, to be closed off by a removable cap (30).

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Claim 24 (Original): The system of claim 14, wherein the male part (M) is configured in the form of a nozzle (50) which can be actuated manually.

Claim 25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (currently amended): The system of claim 14 A system for connecting the ends of fluid conduits, comprising a female part (F) intended to receive a portion of a male part (M), the male and female parts each comprising a shutter (15; 9) for closing the fluid conduits, which is normally closed and can be moved into the open position when the system is in the connected configuration, the male and female parts each additionally including an isolation shutter (19; 17) which is normally closed and can be moved into the open position during the introduction of the male part into the female part, wherein the fluid is liquid hydrogen or liquefied natural gas.

Claim 27 (new): A system for connecting the ends of fluid conduits, comprising a female part (F) intended to receive a portion of a male part (M), the male and female parts each comprising a shutter (15; 9) for closing the fluid conduits, which is normally closed and can be moved into the open position when the system is in the connected configuration, the male and female parts each additionally including an isolation shutter (19; 17) which is normally closed and can be moved into the open position during the introduction of the male part into the female part, wherein:

the male part (M) comprises, to the rear of the sliding seal (20), at least a first pivoting flap (19) capable of cooperating with the end (5) of the tubular guide (4) of the female part (F) during the introduction of the male part into the female part;

the tubular guide (4) of the female part (F) comprises a second pivoting flap (17) capable of cooperating with the end of the central mandrel (12) of the male part (M) during the introduction of this male part into the female part (F); and

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said first pivoting flap (19), said end (5) of the tubular guide (4), said second pivoting flap (17), and said end of said central mandrel (12) are configured such that movement of said male part towards said female part results in opening of said first pivoting flap (19) and continued movement of said male part towards said female part results in opening of said second pivoting flap (17).